

PARTIAL TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

[Words illeg] the most important figures in the Afghan government Taraki and Amin are:

Shah Wali, Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister, Politburo member. He generally regarded as the third man in the inner circle that rules Afghanistan. [Words illeg] differences with Amin or Taraki. A physician, [illeg] Afghanistan, possibly with some training in Czechoslovakia. He was also [illeg] as Health Minister and Acting [words illeg].

Mohammed Aslam Watenjar, Minister of Interior. He led the tanks against the Palace in the last coup, and apparently was also driving the lead tank in the previous coup, was soon demoted to Interior Minister (where he apparently had little influence even in his own ministry) was then made army commander briefly and then Defense Minister when the government needed a popular soldier in the job, and in the latest cabinet shuffle was sent back to Interior. He has been characterized as a pliable, not very bright tank driver, and as a capable and ambitious man. No one doubts his courage or his willingness to take personal risks. He has given no evidence of disloyalty to Taraki and Amin, but is still regarded by everyone--apparently including them--as the person most likely to lead a coup against the government. He is regarded as less pro-Soviet and doctrinaire than the civilians in the government.

The most important figures in the Afghan government are:

Taraki is the most important figure in the Afghan government. He is the third man in the inner circle that rules Afghanistan. He has differences with Amin or Taraki. He is the most important figure, possibly with some training in the military. He is the Health Minister and Minister of the Interior.

Abdullah Khan, Minister of Interior. He led the tanks against the Palace in the last coup, and apparently was also driving the lead tank in the previous coup in 1977. He became Deputy Prime Minister after the coup, was soon promoted to Interior Minister (where he apparently had little influence even in his own ministry) was then made army commander briefly and then Defense Minister when the government needed a popular soldier in the job, and in the latest cabinet shuffle was sent back to Interior. He has been characterized as a pliant, not very bright tank driver, and as a capable and ambitious man. No one doubts his courage or his willingness to take personal risks. He has given no evidence of disloyalty to Taraki and Amin, but is still regarded by everyone--apparently including them--as the person most likely to lead a coup against the government. He is regarded as less pro-Soviet and doctrinaire than the civilians in the government.

Lt. Col. Smerjan Kazdooryan, Minister of Frontier Affairs. The ministry is unimportant, and Kazdooryan may be finished. He was recently moved from Interior, and before that he simultaneously commanded one of the armored brigades near Kabul, commander of the Kabul garrison, and commander of the army corps in Kabul, giving him the most critical commands in the country. Apparently he was believed to be too close to Watanjar and too likely to become involved in a military coup.

Abdul Karim Wisaq, Finance Minister, Politburo Member. Self educated. From a poor family, at one time he was supposed to be the fourth most important man in the government, but he may have slipped. Again, we know of no differences with the party leaders.

Dr. Mohammed Iqbal, First Deputy Minister of Defense. He is in charge of ensuring the loyalty of the military, and apparently actually runs the ministry. (This may have changed since Amin took direct control of the ministry last month.) He is Amin's man, and a key link in the government's chain of control.